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ACCOUNT

Of the Last *Thur/days* Sea Engagement between the
Dutch and *French* Fleets near the Coast of *Brest*,
VVith the Total Routing of the *French* Fleet.

AN *Hambrough* Merchant coming into *Dover* to take in fresh Water, being homeward bound, brings the following Account, as by the particulars of a Letter sent to Esquire P----- an Eminent and worthy Merchant in *London*.

This *Hambrough* Merchant came by the two Fleets, when they were Actually Engaged; the occasion how this Grand Engagement happened to fall out, was as followeth. Thirty Six Sail of Stout *Dutch* Ships lying some Leagues off of *Brest*, to secure the *Dutch Smyrna* Fleet, from the *French* Capers, as well as to Watch the Motion of the late King *James*, who was at *Brest*, with Sixteen Sail of *French* Men of War (from Thirty to Seventy Guns, each as Fire Ships) with many small Craft to carry Land Forces, Ammunition, and Four Cart Loads of Money, and Plate, &c. with a design to Succour *Ireland*, for the Romish Interest. On *Tuesday* last the *Dutch Smyrna* Fleet, past by the *Dutch* Men of War, under their Safe-guard, and are come into the *Channel*, to pursue their Course safely for *Holland*. And on *Wednesday* in the Afternoon, (as it is thought) or at least on *Thursday* Morning, the *French* Fleet put to Sea, from the Port of *Brest*, (the Wind favouring them) for the Coast of *Ireland* directly, but so it fell out, that the Wind tacking about, by which the *Dutch* Fleet (who lay ready waiting their Motion) was driven directly upon them, and the *French* Fleet could not make any part, but the *English* Coasts; a most desperate Fight ensued. And when this *Hambrough* Merchant came away, he left them hotly Engaged, and since (as it's generally reported) the King this day received an Express, that the *French* Fleet are Totally Routed. A great many of their Men of War Sunk, and others taken, with a great number of their small Craft-men that had their Land Souldiers on Board, among which were the Marshal *Luxemburgh*, and many others of their greatest and best Officers: And it's generally said about the Town, that the Late King *James*, with many of the *English* Nobility, are made their Prisoners of War. You may expect in our next, a more full and particular Account, of this Great, Glorious, and most happy Engagement. Happy not only to these Kingdoms of *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*, but happy to the Confederate Princes, and States of *Europe*; who are at present Engaged, in a common and no less just War, with the Enemy of Christianity, and Mankind, the most tyrannical King.

Edinburgh, Re-printed in the Year 1689.